

THE OUTCROP.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

The Paystreak of Advs. never pinches out in this paper.

Try one before the space is all stalked out.

Book III., Chapter 40.

Wilmer, B. C., Thursday, March 5, 1903.

\$2.00 Per Year.

Convention on 2% Tax

Provincial Mining Association Start off in the Right Direction.

The convention of the Provincial Mining Association opened at Victoria on Wednesday of last week, but all of that day and a portion of the next was spent in routine work. It is stated that between 300 and 400 delegates were present and John Keen, of Kaslo, was elected chairman, and any one who knows him will admit that he means business. Unfortunately the mail here only brought a report of the proceedings up to Thursday evening and by then the convention had nearly settled down to business, so that nothing further than the fact that delegates from here were at the meetings can be learned of their actions. However, the first business transacted was to the point and resulted satisfactorily, so believe, to all parties interested. Here is a condensed report of the first business proceedings of the convention, which deals with the 2 per cent tax:

The Mining Association got down to business in their quarters at the city on Thursday morning. The first subject of importance to come before it was the 2 per cent tax. Before the Mining Association adjourned at noon the resolution was adopted unanimously.

After the adjournment of various preliminary matters an interim report from the committee on rules and order was read. The committee set of rules for the guidance of the chairman was adopted.

A. L. Belyea, for the committee on resolutions, reported that resolutions had been approved by the committee as follows:

1. Enforcing the resolutions passed at London in connection with the electrical industry.
2. In favor of abolishing the 2 per cent tax.
3. C. H. Luzzin moved that the report upon the resolution be taken up and discussed.

The convention then proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions. The question of the abolition of the 2 per cent tax was, on motion of A. Grant, of Twana, taken up first.

Judge Townsend, Roseland, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the government and legislature of the province of British Columbia are respectfully urged to abolish the so-called two per cent mineral tax upon the output of mines because of its injurious effect in restricting and depressing mining low grade ores, and because of its effect in discouraging the investment of outside capital.

J. H. McGregg, Victoria, wanted to hear from the pro-union men as to what they were willing to do in the way of a tax provided the 2 per cent was abolished.

Mr. Galt, K. C., Roseland, said that those interested in this matter looked to the support of all classes in seeking the abolition of this tax, which had a deterrent effect upon the mining industry. It seriously affected the mining of low grade ore. The tax was levied upon the gross value of the ore deducting only the cost of freight and treatment. In this way the mine owner had to pay taxes on the cost of the labor in mining this ore. The law was that inequitable. The low grade ores were forced to pay a tax which, brought to its extremity, reached a point where the profit ceased. These low grade mines were of the greatest benefit to the country. The town of Roseland depended entirely upon the mine. If the three or four mines now working were closed down Roseland would be wiped out and the government

would lose the taxes paid by these citizens. He cited a case in which a mine, he believed the Centre Star, was by this forced to pay a tax of 12 per cent, on its net profits. Mines were forced to pay as high as 22 per cent, on the net profits reaped from the ground. The provincial mineralogist points out that the output from the mines was increasing from year to year. But no attempt was made to show the profit which was being made. He could say that none of these mines which were producing this output, were paying a dividend. There were, therefore, little inducement to investors to put money in the province's mines.

It was asked that a substitute be asked for this. Suggestions had been made from time to time yet they had not been attended to. Was it after all the duty of those asking for the removal of an injustice that a substitute should be suggested? (Cries, no). This money was taken out of the pockets of a few mine owners who were hanging on by effort. The low grade ores were being neglected and the mine owners avoided taking these out. It was inequitable that an owner should have to pay 22 per cent of the profits to the government. All chances of failure were entailed by the mine owner, yet he was called upon to pay this tax.

Judge Townsend contended that if the 2 per cent tax was taken off the population would double or perhaps triple in these districts, and the government would thus get its return for the removal of this tax.

E. B. Kierle, Roseland, said that they were usually asked "How is this so burdensome and what do you propose to substitute?"

The burden, while not large in the aggregate, was paid by a very few, and was very unequally divided among the miners.

Mr. Drewery, of Sloan, said he would support the resolution provided the low grade ores were removed. The high grade ore producers could not bear it any better than the low grade.

After a number of other speakers had been made the question of removing the reference to low grade ores was again raised, when attention was called to the fact that placer mines were not included in it. It was decided to remove the reference to low grade ores so that all might be included.

The resolution carried unanimously.

La grippe has had a cinch on the Outcrop reporter for several days—thus we are short on news.

There is no truth in the report that the good people of Toronto have requested the sun to go off shift on Sunday.

The meeting of the B. C. Legislature has been postponed until April 2nd, as well as noticed in the ad. on page 4.

The Nelson hockey team has challenged the Salmon team to play for \$1000 a side and the bet is called.

Quite a number of miners from West Kootenay have arrived here during the past week, coming in by way of Cranbrook.

Mr. S. Mills, of Golden, who was formerly a resident of Atholmer, is said to be quite ill. Recently he received the sad intelligence of the death of his father at his home in Nova Scotia.

Wm. Wills, brother of Edward Wills, who was killed at the Flanagan Mines, January 26th, arrived in Wilmer Saturday evening and next morning started up to the Flanagan to work there.

There are many reasons why Tuley creek road should be cleared out to the North Fork and continued on to Jumbo Fork this season, and those most interested should take united action at once.

It is stated the C.P.R. will spend upwards of a million dollars on their roadbed and buildings in British Columbia this year. The expenditure does not include the reduction of the grade on the big hill at Field, which will also be completed as soon as possible.

Saturday afternoon E. F. Ranch drove a number of ladies to Pine creek with his spirited four-horse team. The ladies report having had "just a lovely time," and desire to thank Mr. Ranch for his kindness, and also Mr. R. A. Klinton, who entertained them with a delicious tea.

It was reported Tuesday that R. A. Klinton had been given the contract of carrying the mail from Pine creek to Cranbrook, but as he had started for Cranbrook before a reporter could see him nothing definite can be stated. However, many doubt the report as it is usual to rail for tenders publicly, and take it as a joke.

Sam Cobb is now in Arizona and has written a friend here that with another prospector he has staked a claim the ore of which runs \$2000 in gold, and already they have taken out a quantity of the ore. Sam's many friends here will be pleased to hear this. Fully stratified in the same state and is said to have staked some good gold properties.

A movement is on foot in England for the formation of a college for training poor cultivated English women for life in the colonies. The promoters say: "The future well-being of the colonies demands English women of higher cultivation than the traditions of English home life." This is pure rubbish. If this college teaches the cultured English girl geology, botany, zoology, and dentistry, it is just possible some of them might be useful to the colonies, at least they might get a job in some kitchen where a Chinaman would teach them "cheap ways." The trouble with most of the English girls who come to the colonies is that they have tried to "square" traditions of English home life" so much together. In fact many of them have made themselves universally disliked by their constant prattle of "me" and "us" and as soon as they drop their cents and settle down to the life as they find it in the colonies they become happy and content. Indeed, few there are who have any desire to return to the "traditions" once they learn the higher scale of civilization. It is alright for England to look backward for almost a thousand years. But the bloom is

colonies have too much ahead to bother about traditions. Come west, girls, and learn to work and you may make many a happy home and help build up a nation that will be greater than England.

Correspondence

Mr. Troyer Replies to S.R.

Editor Outcrop: Sir,—In your last issue I notice an article from the goosepen of "S.R." trying to make a pun, or fun, of my brainpan. I may state I am not troubled with life complaint; namely, swollen-head—his liver must be out of order. The article which he refers to was not written by me, neither did I authorize it, although I have no fault to find with it. He says the same has been tried some twenty years ago. This may be so, or not; some person must have told "S.R." or he would have never known. Laws are very often defeated by people, who are very anxious to have them re-enacted after a term of years. Laws are or should be enacted for the benefit of the masses. Twenty years ago this country was run by a few at the Coast, and their interests were centered in cheap labor. If the fish industry cannot succeed without the Chinamen, let them pay for the luxury. We all know that if the Chinamen were not employed or patronized they would soon leave for new fields. Cheap labor is by no means the greatest curse of the Mongolian, but he spends nothing in the country; he even carries his home back. I may add that the hen which cackles the loudest does not always lay the biggest egg.

I am yours, C. TAYLOR, Windermere, B. C., Feb. 28, 1903.

(Our friend, Mr. Troyer, must have forgotten that he personally requested us to publish his statement as it appeared in the item referred to, in the presence of several other gentlemen.)—Ed.

NO. 3 CREEK WAGON ROAD

Petition is Being Circulated From Brisco

Brisco, B. C., Feb. 28th, 1903 To Hon. W. C. Wells, Chief Com. of Lands & Works, Victoria, B. C.

Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned petitioners, respectfully would point out to your notice: That the largest deposit of shipping ore in this riding is only 17 miles from this point. And we respectfully request that a wagon road be at once started from a point on the Columbia river, opposite Wm. Logan's ranch, to the ore bodies on Number Three creek. And a good trail be constructed to the head of Salmon river pass from the above mentioned road. We would further point out that the getting out of the ore would be a great help to the people at Brisco and Golden. That the present route is a very rough and narrow body, to wit: 30 miles by water, then 35 miles by pack trail, total distance 65 miles. That in the 17-mile way, we have shown above, there are no natural difficulties to overcome. That the opening out of this rich section of our mineral belt could not fail to be of great advantage to the trade of Golden and add to the general prosperity of the riding. It would also contribute to the revenue of the Province at large.

By granting our petition, we, your petitioners will ever pray, etc. A petition somewhat similar will be circulated in this vicinity at once.

Grand Trunk Pacific

Canadian Lands are Worth More Than Any Kind of Enterprise.

The authorities of the Grand Trunk Railway are quoted as expecting a liberal aid to their Pacific railway enterprise as that rendered by the Canadian Pacific. They seem to consider that a land grant is quite within the possibilities. Everybody, both west and east, wants to see the Grand Trunk Pacific enterprise succeed, and no one will or should grudge moderate aid or proper terms to it. But surely the Grand Trunk does not expect the people of Canada to repeat the stupendous and acknowledged mistakes of twenty years ago. The aid granted the C.P.R. and the terms upon which it was granted was not justified by the then existing conditions. The bargain then made was most improvident. It is being demonstrated every day. To make a similar bargain today, after twenty years of bitter experience, would not be madness—it would be folly. The great and chief reason for wanting the Grand Trunk is that the mistakes of the C.P.R. bargain may be corrected or repeated. And any bonus that may be given should be conditioned strictly so as to correct those mistakes as far as they can be corrected. If we are to have no more control of rates over the Grand Trunk than we have over the Canadian Pacific there is no reason why public franchises or public aid should be given to the Grand Trunk instead of further extension of the C. P. R.

As to a land grant, the stupendous folly of the land grant to the C.P.R.—especially with the conditions attached—is only now becoming fully apparent; when by a stroke of the pen, increasing the price of land still held ten or may be twenty millions is added to the fortunes of the company and taken from the people individually who collectively were owners of the land. At the present price of the C.P.R. land grant, say \$1000 are for say fifteen million acres remaining unsold, the company still has \$200,000,000 of good negotiable assets, for building a road that did not cost them that amount—for it should always be remembered that although the whole road cost one hundred millions, the two most difficult sections were built by the government at a cost of over thirty millions and handed over to them free. And there is no assurance that from month to month, as long as land is booming, the price may not be still further increased. Indeed, it is safe to say that it will be. This cannot be helped now. But to repeat the operation in the light of present knowledge would be a scandal and a crime. The public lands of Canada are worth more to the people of Canada as an attraction and opportunity for settlement and productive development, than as a bonus to any enterprise of any kind.

The Grand Trunk company wants a profitable investment for capital which is able to attract and which it expects will render more profitable than at present the capital already invested in the company's enterprises. It sees in the Northwest a promising field. The people of Canada desire to have the west more fully developed by railways than at present. They desire to have the conditions regarding railway transportation improved. The Grand Trunk's proposal may offer a ready means to the desired end—and it may not. If the company will meet the requirements in the country which it develops and the terms upon which the needs of trade and travel will be met, there is no reason why these advantages should not be recognized by substantial assistance from the public treasury or upon the public credit. But if the railway will pass through undesirable country, or cause lossable of satisfactory development—if by reason of its route it is to leave the C.P.R. a monopoly as at present, and at the same time ensure its being a monopoly itself—if it is to be independent of state control of rates, as is the C.P.R., there is no particular reason why the people of Canada should spend any of their money or pledge any of their credit in its assistance. "Nothing for Nothing" is the motto of the railways in dealing with the public either individually or collectively, and "Nothing for Nothing" should be the motto of the public in dealing with railways.—Edmonton Bulletin.

Managing editor—What we require is the services of a man capable of taking full charge of our "Query Box." Are you capable of answering all kinds of questions? Applicant—Well, rather, yes. I'm the father of eleven children.

Golden Nuggets

(From Our Own Correspondent.) Golden, B. C., Feb. 28.

Born at Golden, the 23rd inst., to Mrs. G. H. Sanborn, a daughter.

The Masons and Oddfellows have been busy moving from their old lodge rooms in the Alexander Block, to the new hall in the Miners' and Laborer's Cooperative Co's building.

Dr. Taylor paid a call to field this week, also on to Donald.

B. W. Palmer, who formerly resided in Golden, arrived in town today, and leaves for Windermere in the morning.

A meeting of the Golden Board of Trade is to be held in the Court House on Monday evening.

John Anderson and Frank Nicholson paid a visit to Revelstoke this week.

The Box Social given by the ladies of the Methodist church, was a great success. The selling of the boxes, however,

was the drawing card, some very amusing incidents occurring.

The Quail dance Monday evening last was very well attended. After supper had been served, Mr. Landells called the attention of all present, and in a few well-timed words presented, on behalf of the members of the club, Miss Nesbit with a purse in appreciation of her kindness in so ably assisting with the musical program of the club meetings.

A tourist club is being formed to attract the attention of tourists to Golden and vicinity. This is a grand idea as no more beautiful scenery is to be found than in and around this part of the country.

It is understood Mr. Geo. B. McPherson, who intends commencing business as a merchant in Golden.

The funeral of Mrs. Cederholm, of Field, took place Thursday in Golden. Mrs. Cederholm has resided in Field for many years and her death is to be mourned. Three girls and a boy survive her, the eldest girl being about 19 years of age.

THE OUTCROP.

Published Every Thursday in the heart of a Wonderfully Rich Mineral and Agricultural District.

Subscription, \$2.00 a Year; Foreign countries, \$2.50.

Exchange must be paid on checks.

Advertising Rates: Display ads., \$2 per column inch per month. Legal ads. 15 cents per nonpareil line for first insertion and 10 cents each additional line. Long notices 25 cents per line each issue. Delinquent Co-owner notice, \$10; Crown grant mineral claim notice, \$7.50; Timber Limit notice, \$5.

W. P. EVANS,

Publisher and Proprietor.

WILMER, B.C., THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1903.

Many people believe that the boom that is always due in the spring will arrive here sharp on time this year. And there certainly seems to be reason in it.

Postmasters in Manitoba are demanding more pay for their services. British Columbia postmasters are not all wealthy and most of them could stand to have a raise, too.

The prospects for prosperity were never so bright as they are at present in the Windermere District, and employment for miners and workmen was never so plentiful as it has been all winter and is now.

A "quack" ad. has never yet appeared in this paper, although many applications for space by such firms have been received. Such firms will do well to save their postage unless they are willing to pay more than other folk.

Once more THE OUTCROP would have people know that we have no "private opinion" of mining properties for sale or gratis. What we publish are facts as we see them or those credited to others. We advise men seeking cheap information to write those advertising in this paper, and they will find it cheap in the long run. A newspaper should give information only as news and if a reader becomes interested he should purchase only on the advice of an experienced miner, and very few newspaper men are miners. Through newspaper reports most mining deals are started, but it is very seldom it is acknowledged and even less seldom that a newspaper receives any direct benefit.

The following item, which appeared in the Calgary Herald, has caused many people here to amuse themselves at the Herald's expense. It is so ridiculously absurd that it is really funny. Here it is:

"Wilmer, B.C., is about to apply for incorporation as a town. The snow fall in that district is the heaviest on record for a number of years. Up to the present date 120 inches of snowfall on the level of the town has seriously hampered the mining operations."

To be charitable it is reasonable to presume that some outgoing miner has told the Herald that there is ten feet of snow at the mines near Wilmer, and that paper knowing nothing of mining camp life, has made the error. As a matter of fact there has been little over six inches of snow on the level of the town at any time during the winter; but it is possible at the mines away up in the mountains that there has been ten feet of snow. Instead of mining being hampered it has been the best winter for mining ever known here.

Speaking of the value of ores and how some men will try to deceive themselves a mine foreman recently told how he and an expert sometime ago had been persuaded to make a trip to see a prospect, which occupied over a week's time steady travelling. The prospector had shown them a splendid specimen of ore and described the property as something wonderful, but when they reached the claims not another specimen could they find, nor even a sign of a ledge. This, of course, is a very exceptional case and it might be well to add that the wild chase was made into the Okanagan. Yet the subject is one that is often difficult to determine. The every-day prospector or mine operator is too prone to select the very best samples he can lay his hands on—perhaps a piece weighing a few ounces, which may be selected from a ton of rock. This is submitted to an analyst and invariably a high assay is obtained. But this is not a fair assay, inasmuch as the sample is not an average sample. Men who adopt such tactics deceive themselves and deceive the public, and sometimes newspapers publish these exaggerations off-hand and do the country more harm than good.

Fortunately the Windermere district is about past the days when too much stress can be placed on assays. All

of the more important claims have had smelter tests made and, therefore, the worth of an assay can easily be compared and judged accordingly.

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Sole Agent for North East Kootenay.

WILMER, B. C.

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This Company now offers for sale their lands along the Columbia River and Lakes in blocks of 160 acres and upwards.

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For maps and terms apply to—

R. R. BRUCE, Peterborough, B. C.

A. TAYLOR, District Land Agent, Nelson, B. C.

F. T. GRIFFIN, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg, Man.

NOTICE.

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Revelstoke, - - B. C.

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